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PRESS RELEASE

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For More Information

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**New North Dakota Blue Book
Features State's Eco-tourism and Recreation**

Bismarck, ND – The 26th edition of the North Dakota Blue Book highlights North Dakota's eco-tourism and recreational opportunities and the economic impact they have on the state.

Secretary of State Al Jaeger presented the first copy of the 2005-2007 book to Governor John Hoeven at a ceremony at the State Capitol today, where the many volunteers who compiled it were recognized.

The 600-page book also features a new listing of North Dakota Decisionmakers, which has been updated for the first time since 1989. It includes the names, hometowns and the public positions held by some 4,000 individuals from Dakota Territory days to present.

"This new Blue Book continues a tradition of providing information about North Dakota's resources, character, culture, and government," says Jaeger. "It provides information not readily available in other reference materials."

The feature chapter covers the recreational resources that make North Dakota a tourism destination, including all Missouri River boat ramps and a county-by-county listing of all fishing and boating resources in the state. Among the contributors to the chapter are 14 residents who submitted essays sharing their love for their recreational pursuits in the state, including catching salmon, catfish, and paddlefish; hunting deer, waterfowl and upland game; biking; golfing; curling; sailing; and pow wow dancing.

The essay contributors are: **Bismarck:** Rusty Gillette, Bob Kallberg, Jon Mielke, Dan Nelson, Lee Klapprodt, Bill Mitzel and Ron Wilson; **Grand Forks:** Brad Durick; **Hazen:** Mike Quinn; **Wahpeton:** Curt Wells; **Devils Lake:** Johnny Candle; **Enderlin:** John Nolan; **Garrison:** Patricia Stockdill; **Williston:** Andy Anderson.

The new edition has 600 pages, and includes many color photos of North Dakota scenery. It sells for \$20 and is available through the Museum Store at the North Dakota Heritage Center, (701) 328-2666 or www.state.nd.us/hist.

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